

Washington University in St. Louis

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Department of Internal Medicine
Division of Geriatrics and Nutritional Science
Older Adult Health Center

April 15, 2008

Martha C. Brown, Attorney
220 W. Lockwood, Suite 203
St. Louis MO 63119

**Re: Henry Cummings
DOB 11/10/1937**

To the Office of Disciplinary Counsel:

Mr. Henry Cummings has been under my medical care at the Washington University Older Adult Health Center since November, 2005. At that time, we made a diagnosis of dementia due to Alzheimer's disease, of mild severity, based on a detailed clinical examination and neuropsychometric testing. When he presented to us, Mr. Cummings symptoms of dementia included short-term memory loss with repetition of questions and statements, misplacement of items, and forgetting appointments. He also had disorientation such that he got lost in familiar places, including his workplace. In addition, Mr. Cummings had poor judgment skills as evidenced by difficulties with finances and bill-paying and poor insight into his cognitive limitations. Both his memory impairment and poor judgment skills would have impaired his ability to exercise professional judgment as an attorney. Mr. Cummings is currently being treated with Razadyne for treatment of the dementia. Dementia is a progressive disease for which there is no cure, and therefore Mr. Cummings is unlikely to recover from it. Medications such as Razadyne only delay the progression of the disease to more severe stages.

If you have any questions regarding the above information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 314-286-2707 or ebinder@wustl.edu.

Sincerely,



Ellen Binder MD
Associate Professor of Medicine and Geriatrics